

Joins Rep. DeGette, American Hospital Association and American Society of Health-System Pharmacists

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) tomorrow will join Rep. Diana DeGette (CO-01), Rich Umbdenstock, President and CEO of the American Hospital Association (AHA), and Kasey Thompson, Vice President of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), to discuss the growing number of prescription drug shortages. Reps. Rooney and DeGette are original sponsors of the [“Preserving Access to Life-Saving Medications Act,”](#) a bipartisan bill to improve patient safety by reducing shortages of life-saving drugs.

“Across the country, hospitals and physicians are facing critical shortages of common, life-saving drugs, like anesthetics, pain medications and cancer therapies,” Rooney said. “No patient should suffer because of a drug shortage that could have been prevented.”

According to the Food and Drug Administration, drug shortages have nearly tripled since 2005 and hit a record high of 178 last year, presenting serious challenges to hospitals that provide care for critically ill patients. Many of these drugs play a critical role in life-saving treatments, including cancer therapies, widely used anesthetics, antimicrobials, and pain medication.

WHAT: Reps. Rooney and DeGette will discuss [their bill](#) to combat drug shortages, and the AHA and ASHP will unveil survey data from their members on the impact of shortages on hospitals and the patients they care for.

□ **WHO:** □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□ Representative Tom Rooney (FL-16)

Representative Diana DeGette (D-CO)

Rich Umbdenstock, AHA President and CEO

Kasey Thompson, Pharm.D., ASHP vice president, office of policy planning and communications

WHERE: ██████████ Longworth House Office Building Room 1300

WHEN: ██████████ Tuesday, July 12 at 9:45 a.m.

More information on the Rooney-DeGette bill is available [HERE](#) .

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